

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Original) A method of determining disease status of a patient suffering from a disease characterized by aberrant expression of one or more cell surface receptor complexes, the method comprising the steps of:

measuring directly in a patient sample an amount of each of one or more cell surface receptor complexes;

comparing each such amount to its corresponding amount in a reference sample; and

correlating differences in the amounts from the patient sample and the respective corresponding amounts from the reference sample to the disease status the patient.

2.-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said one or more cell surface receptor complexes are one or more VEGF receptor complexes, and wherein said disease is cancer or a disease characterized by aberrant angiogenesis.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein said one or more VEGF receptor complexes are selected from the group consisting of VEGFR1 homodimers, VEGFR2 homodimers, VEGFR1-VEGFR2 heterodimers, VEGFR2-VEGFR3 heterodimers, VEGFR2-SHC complexes, and VEGFR3-SHC complexes, and wherein said disease is cancer or a disease characterized by aberrant angiogenesis.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 or 10 ~~11~~ wherein said one or more VEGF receptor complexes are determined by the steps of:

~~contacting providing for each of~~ said one or more VEGF receptor complexes a ~~reagent pair comprising with~~ a cleaving probe having a cleavage-inducing moiety with an effective proximity, and with one or more binding compounds each having one or more molecular tags attached thereto by a cleavable linkage, the molecular tags of different binding

compounds having different separation characteristics, such that the cleaving probe and the one or more binding compounds specifically bind to their respective VEGF receptor complexes and the cleavable linkages of the one or more binding compounds within the effective proximity of the cleavage-inducing moiety are cleaved, thereby releasing one or more of the one or more molecular tags; and

~~mixing the cleaving probe and the one or more binding compounds for each of said one or more VEGF receptor complexes with said patient sample such that the cleaving probe and the one or more binding compounds specifically bind to their respective VEGF receptor complexes and the cleavable linkages of the one or more binding compounds are within the effective proximity of the cleavage-inducing moiety so that molecular tags are released; and~~

separating and identifying the released molecular tags to determine the presence or absence or the amount of said one or more VEGF receptor complexes in said patient sample.

13.-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A method of determining disease status of a patient suffering from a disease characterized by aberrant expression of one or more cell surface receptor complexes, the method comprising the steps of:

measuring directly in a patient sample an amount of each of one or more cell surface receptor complexes;

comparing each such amount to its corresponding amount in a reference sample;

correlating differences in the amounts from the patient sample and the respective corresponding amounts from the reference sample to the disease status the patient; and

wherein each of said one or more cell surface receptor complexes are determined by the steps of:

~~contacting providing for each of said one or more VEGF receptor complexes a reagent pair comprising~~ with a cleaving probe having a cleavage-inducing moiety with an effective proximity, and with one or more binding compounds each having one or more molecular tags attached thereto by a cleavable linkage, the molecular tags of different binding compounds having different separation characteristics, such that the cleaving probe and the one or more binding compounds specifically bind to their respective VEGF receptor complexes and the cleavable linkages of the one or more binding compounds within the

effective proximity of the cleavage-inducing moiety are cleaved, thereby releasing one or more of the one or more molecular tags; and

~~mixing the cleaving probe and the one or more binding compounds for each of said one or more VEGF receptor complexes with said patient sample such that the cleaving probe and the one or more binding compounds specifically bind to their respective VEGF receptor complexes and the cleavable linkages of the one or more binding compounds are within the effective proximity of the cleavage-inducing moiety so that molecular tags are released; and~~

separating and identifying the released molecular tags to determine the presence or absence or the amount of said one or more cell surface receptor complexes in said patient sample.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said disease is a cancer and wherein said patient sample is a fixed tissue sample, a frozen tissue sample, or circulating epithelial cells.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein said disease status is responsiveness of said patient to treatment with a dimer-acting drug.

24. (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein said cancer is selected from the group consisting of breast cancer, ovarian cancer, prostate cancer, and colorectal cancer.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22 wherein said one or more cell surface receptor complexes are selected from the group consisting of PDGFR α homodimers, PDGFR β homodimers, PDGFR α -PDGFR β heterodimers, PDGFR-SHC complexes, PDGFR-PI3K complexes, Her1-PDGFR receptor dimers, Her2-PDGFR receptor dimers, Her3-PDGFR receptor dimers, PDGFR-IGF-1R receptor dimers, VEGFR1 homodimers, VEGFR2 homodimers, VEGFR1-VEGFR2 heterodimers, VEGFR2-VEGFR3 heterodimers, VEGFR2-SHC complexes, and VEGFR3-SHC complexes, and wherein said disease is cancer or a disease characterized by aberrant angiogenesis.

26. (Original) The method according to claims 21, 22, 23, 24, or 25 wherein said tissue indicators are tubulin or cytokeratin.